

Atty. Ref.: FP03-025US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Appl. No. : 10/696,435

Filed : October 29, 2003

For : CONNECTOR AND METHOD OF CONNECTING A CONNECTOR
WITH A MATING CONNECTOR

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SECOND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

The above-identified U.S. patent application corresponds to European Application No. 03 02 4975.9. A Search Report issued in connection with the European application on February 17, 2004, and a copy of that Search Report is attached. The Examiner will note that the European Searcher identified two references as being relevant. Each of those references was identified as a Category A document, and hence was considered to relate merely to the technological background of a few of the broadest claims in the European application. Neither of the references was considered to be particularly relevant when considered alone or when combined with another reference. The Annex to the European Search Report indicates that the European reference corresponds to Published U.S. Application 2001-034166.

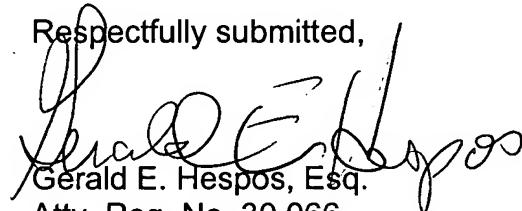
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

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This Information Disclosure Statement includes a copy of Form PTO-1449 that identifies the U.S. patent listed in the European Search Report and the published U.S. patent application that corresponds to the European application identified in the European Search Report. The Examiner is requested to consider these references during the examination and to make the references of record.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: May 5, 2004

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.